

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claim 1 as follows. Please note that claim 1 is presented below in its amended form. Furthermore, the claim is presented as an attachment to the amendment where the amendments are shown using the conventional technique of bracketing and underlining. Applicant has endeavored to maintain consistency between the marked-up and amended version of the claims. However, should there be discrepancy, the clean version prevails.

*H26*  
1. (Amended) A microstrip line comprising:

a ground conductor layer;

a dielectric layer disposed on the ground conductor layer;

a linear conductor layer disposed on the dielectric layer to have a linear configuration, the linear conductor layer having a wider portion in an upper part of a cross section thereof taken in a direction perpendicular to a direction in which the linear conductor layer extends and a narrower portion in a lower part of the cross section, the narrower portion being smaller in width than the wider portion and a substrate for holding the ground conductor layer, the substrate being located under the ground conductor layer composed of a dielectric material, wherein the dielectric layer has a dielectric constant higher than a dielectric constant of the substrate.